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## REVIEWS.

**Ashley, Percy.** *Modern Tariff History.* Pp. xxiii, 367. Price, \$3.00. New York: E. P. Dutton & Co., 1904.

Any history which has its inception in an object that makes it secondary as history to a main purpose, is apt to arouse the reader's distrust, both as to the temper and the content of the work. The main purpose in the present instance seems to be the enlightenment of the British public upon the probable experience before it, as inferred from the experience of France, the United States and Germany,—in case Great Britain should abandon her present tariff policy. Whether or not the prospect is alluring, the reader may judge for himself, for the historian is discreetly conservative in the drawing of conclusions. Judging, however, from the prefatory note by Mr. R. B. Hal-dane, the lesson of history lays heavy emphasis upon the conservative policy.

The tariff history of France and of Germany certainly needed to be written for the English and American reader, and the author is to be commended for having put before us the main facts in concise form. That of Germany is particularly illuminating, and though the author does not claim to rely so much on his own researches as upon those of others, he has done much in stating very clearly the conflicting interests and the grounds taken by the defenders thereof.

With regard to the tariff history of the United States, the works of Taussig, Brentano and Stanwood, not to mention the host of magazine writers with whom Mr. Ashley shows his familiarity, have covered the field somewhat fully if not exhaustively, and the only added merit in this connection is to be found in the recentness of the work, and the fact that it is from a viewpoint outside of ourselves.

Mr. Ashley's style is remarkable for a certain freshness and vitality which makes his book easy reading in spite of the abstruseness of the subject. Taking it altogether the book is well worth while.

J. E. CONNER.

*Washington, D. C.*

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**Bernheimer, Charles S. (Ed.).** *The Russian Jew in the United States.* Philadelphia: The John C. Winston Company, 1905.

Recognizing the power for harm in the selfish prejudgment of the later emigrants to this country, Dr. Bernheimer, in 1900, planned a broad study of one of the largest and perhaps the most unique and distinct of the constituents of the great influx. The purpose is to truly portray the social, religious, industrial and political life of the three large Russian-Jewish communities in the United States.

The editor has adopted the unusual plan of a mosaic book—for each of his twenty-eight collaborators has done a distinct part of the work independently of the thought of the others. As we observe the mosaic we first see in partial cross-section the different race elements, then a fleeting yet clear insight to those mystic closes of the congregations of these co-religionists who have come successively to our land. We are given the prospect of a

complete amalgamation of these radically differing races—the flux being the common heritage through generations of generations of their unchanging spiritual ideal. The fruit is to be a people “not Sephardic, not German, not Russian, not even American, but simply and solely Jewish.”

The article on the Jew in Russia which should tell sufficient of his history and character there to temper our judgment as to the probable development here and to adjust our perspective of the present situation deals too narrowly with the history. Far more full and real is the panel drawn by Mr. Cohan of the people as they are domiciled in the United States. The nation is here symbolized by New York City.

The matter of fact statements of the economic situation of the masses impressed the reviewer as showing it to be low—destructively low it would be for any people less frugal, patient in adversity, and controlled and moderate in temperament.

The religious activity is apparently disorganized and the institution in a chaotic state. Small hope is extended for immediate improvement and a grave need is shown for deliberate and concerted revival work. Thankfully it may be said that the short-comings and mistakes are not glossed over, but pointed to, criticised and condemned. Bright and fair to read is that which tells of education, but most dramatic and interesting to the lay reader are the engraved gems set in the centre with their fascinating and significant legend of the amusements and social life. The growing, though not yet popularly recognized, apprehension of the power of pleasures as inducements to work and ladders to higher social planes finds here its expression, and it is with a keen appreciation of the importance of their analysis that Mrs. Simon N. (Charlotte Kimball) Patten has written.

The manner of presentation of the papers is not uniformly happy and for the whole we wish for a specific statement of dates. Their absence leads to doubt as to the present applicability and the correlation of certain of the statistics. In spite of this, however, Dr. Bernheimer has undoubtedly done a service in bringing out this book. Considering its structure, he is to be congratulated on having it so free of injudicious statements and as complete as it is in the important matter on this serious subject of the assimilation of so alien a people.

WALTER E. KRUESI.

*New York.*

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**Brassey, Lord, and Chapman, Sydney J.** *Work and Wages.* A study of the effects of foreign competition upon the trade of Great Britain. Pp. xxxv, 301. Price, \$3.00. London and New York: Longmans, Green & Co., 1904.

Five years ago the British press was filled with dolorous and deprecatory articles, portraying in vivid language the havoc which was being wrought by the “American Commercial Invasion,” and making gloomy prophecies as to the future of British and continental manufacturers and merchants. Time has demonstrated how inaccurate these forecasts were. The “invasion” ceased almost as suddenly as it began with the resumption of industrial activity in